

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /068 W

-----092338Z 001779 /75

R 091245Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7762

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

VYGDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2617

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBUAMY MAPUTO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: RH, PINT, PINS, MORG

SUBJECT: RHODESIA AGAIN CHANGES DRAFT OBLIGATIONS

REF: PRETORIA 1844, 0526 AND 0468

1. ACCORDING TO RHODESIAN PRESS, MINISTER OF COMBINED OPERATIONS, ROGER HAWKINS, ANNOUNCED ON JUNE 3 NEW MAXIMUM TERMS FOR MILITARY DRAFTEES IN TERRITORIAL, RESERVE AND 38-49 YEAR AGE GROUPS. THIS AFFECTS ALL MILITARY AND POLICE WHO ARE NOT REGULAR CAREER OR "SPECIALS", SUCH AS SELOUS SCOUTS, GREY'S SCOUTS, ETC. NEW TERMS FOR TERRITORIALS AND RESERVISTS IS ANNUAL MAXIMUM OF 190 DAYS. MEN FROM 38-40 WILL SERVE SEVENTY DAYS ANNUALLY. HAWKINS ALSO CALLED FOR "REASONABLY FIT" MEN BETWEEN 50-60 YEARS TO VOLUNTEER FOR POLICE SPECIAL UNITS. THESE ARE UNITS WHICH PROVIDE PATROLS

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IN URBAN AREAS AND HAWKINS SAID THESE MEN WOULD SERVE IN THEIR OWN AREAS. SPECIAL EXEMPTION WAS MADE FOR MEN RUNNING "ONE-MAN BUSINESSES", CROP FARMERS, TEACHERS, AND AIR FORCE TECHNICIANS. IN LATTER CASE, IF TECHNICIANS INVOLVED IN ESSENTIAL SERVICES FOR PRIVATE AVIATION, THEY WOULD ONLY BE CALLED IN EMERGENCIES. FARMERS AND TEACHERS WOULD BE CALLED UP AT TIMES THAT

WOULD CAUSE "MINIMUM DISRUPTION." ONE-JTUAN BUSINESSMEN
WOULD BE TRAINED AFTER HOURS AND WORK OUTSIDE BUSINESS
HOURS "IN POLICE DUTIES, IN AFRICAN TOWNSHIP, IN URBAN
AREAS, ON ROAD BLOCKS AND THINGS OF THIS SORT."

2. REASONS FOR NEW MEASURES ACCORDING TO HAWKINS,
WERE THAT PAST CALL-UP TERMS BETWEEN TERRITORIALS AND
RESERVISTS WERE UNEQUAL AND "CONSIDERABLE DISCONTENT"
IN RANK HAD OCCURED. "THESE MEASURES ARE INTENDED",
HE SAID, "TO LEAD...TO A GREATER DEGREE OF UNIFORMITY
AND EQUITABILITY IN THE PERIODS OF EMERGENCY NATIONAL
SERVICE FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE NOW ELIGIBLE FOR CALL-UP."
HAWKINS DENIED THAT THESE MEASURES WERE CONNECTED
WITH "OVERALL PICTURE AS WE KNOW IT TODAY." HAWKINS
SAID THAT MEASURES HAD BEEN DISCUSSED WITH REPRESENTATIVES
OF INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS AND THEY HAD AGREED.

3. COMMENT: THIS MOVE RAISES AVERAGE SERVICE OF MEN
UNDER 38 FROM FOUR TO JUST OVER SIX MONTHS A YEAR.
IT ACTUALLY LOWERS 38-49 YEAR OLDS PUT IN BUT
OVERALL EFFECT, EVEN IF 50-60 YEAR OLD GROUP DOESN'T
VOLUNTEER, WILL BE TO INCREASE MANHOURS IN SERVICE.
PROVISIONS MADE FOR SMALL BUSINESSMEN AND OTHER
SPECIAL CATEGORIES TAKE SOME OF STEAM OUT OF OBJECTIONS
RAISED IN PAST BY PRIVATE SECTOR. HAWKINS DENIAL THAT
MOVE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH ESCALATING WARFARE IS AT
LEAST PARTIALLY CORRECT. INEQUITIES IN SYSTEM AND
DISRUPTIVE EFFECT ON ECONOMY HAVE BEEN CASUING RHODESIAN
GOVERNMENT HEADACHES FOR LAST SIX MONTHS AND RULING RF
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PARTY HAS BEEN ANXIOUS ALLEVIATE THESE CONCERNS.BOWDLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 09-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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